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Boxoffice 1951 Winners

Motion Picture Herald Poll



The Motion Picture Herald's poll of theatre men selected, in the following order, the ten top money-makers in 1951. No. 1 John Wayne; No. 2 Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis; No. 3 Betty Grable; No. 4 Abbott and Costello; No. 5 Bing Crosby; No. 6 Bob Hope; No. 7 Randolph Scott; No. 8 Gary Cooper; No. 9 Doris Day; No. 10 Spencer Tracy.

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21 DUNDAS SQUARE - TORONTO

Canadian Headlines Latest Canadian Cameo Short

The drama of a year's progress in Canada during the past year is graphically portrayed in Associated Screen Studios' latest Canadian Cameo short release, Canadian Headlines of 1951.

Now being released for showing throughout the country, Canadian Headlines of 1951 summarizes in ten minutes running time the exciting tempo of life in this country in the last twelve months.

Problems of defence at home and abroad are spotlighted with scenes of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization members meeting in solemn conclave in Ottawa, as Canadian troops swing into action in far-off Korea. The Canadian 27th Brigade is seen embarking for Europe to bolster General Eisenhower's forces on that continent.

Sports fans will thrill to highlight shots of the Toronto Maple Leafs and Montreal Canadiens battling for the Stanley Cup, and the Regina Rough Riders and their Ottawa namesakes settling this year's Grey Cup question in Toronto.

Signs of progress include the opening of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's new Radio Canada Building in Montreal, and shots of the first oil pipeline from the lush Alberta oilfields.

One somber note is struck in Red Hill's abortive and tragic attempt to conquer Niagara Falls in a homemade container.

Of interest to Canadians in all walks of life are the scenes of the whirlwind tour of Princess Elizabeth and her consort, the Duke of Edinburgh, from their arrival at Dorval Airport, Montreal, to their departure from St. John's, Newfoundland.

Reviewers who have seen Canadian Headlines of 1951 state that Director Gordon Sparling's perceptive handling of action, dialogue and background music have resulted in a reel that is jam-packed with action, and with a wide scope of subject matter.

This latest Canadian Cameo short subject is Associated Screen Studios' fifth in their Canadian Headlines series.

Globe and Mail's Whittaker Selects 10 Best Films for '51

Streetcar Named Desire, Warner Bros.

A Place In The Sun, Paramount

Lavender Hill Mob, JARO

The River, United Artists

The Magnet, JARO

It Happened In Europe, Alliance

Seven Days To Noon, IFD

Bitter Rice, IFD

Tales of Hoffmann, IFD

The Big Carnival, Paramount

TRADE headlines



William Dieterle signs contract with Columbia Pictures to produce and direct four pictures over period of six years.

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes purchased by 20th-Fox for \$150,000. Screen release after July 1, 1953, in U.S. and after Jan., 1954 in England.

Warner Bros. name own color process Warnercolor—first two features to use Warnercolor The Lion and The Horse and The Champagne Bandits.

Allied Film Inc. gets U.S. reissue rights to 15 J. Arthur Rank Pictures.

Warner Bros. concludes deal with Japan's largest circuit.

Variety International Clubs, Tent 28, Toronto stages successful show at the Imperial Theatre, Toronto, featuring, The Greatest Show on Earth with a personal appearance of its star Betty Hutton, last Thursday.

Toronto hard hit by transportation strike — newspapers predict long strike.

20th-Fox holds annual sales convention in New York — highlight of the talks was the national release of David and Bathsheba.

Alec Guinness and Anna Neagle head box-office leaders in Motion Picture Herald's Annual Poll in Britain.

Jerome Pickman, Paramount's director of publicity, advertising and exploitation elected as vice-president and member of the board of directors of Paramount Film Distributing Corp.

Ned Depinet re-elected president of RKO.

The Garry, owned by Rudy Bessler, first new theatre in years opens its doors in Winnipeg.

Astral Films, headed by I. H. Allen closes deal for Canadian distribution rights with Souvaine Selective Pictures. First release to be Louis Bunin's "Alice in Wonderland."

Gypsy Blood, color by Technicolor starring Jennifer Jones, produced by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger in collaboration with David O. Seznick to be reissued by RKO.

RAY PRESENTS



I AM writing this Ray Presents in Phoenix, Arizona, where I am visiting my son, Jay L., and his family, whom I have not seen for close to two years. I had intended being in Phoenix for Christmas, but in Toronto, we had a real old-fashioned blizzard and flights were cancelled. I do not know whether Chicago gave Canada the blizzard, or whether Canada gave the blizzard to Chicago; which gave the eight

inches of snow, plus the high, icy winds, was not important to me; what was important was the fact that neither out of Toronto, nor out of Chicago was I able to make Phoenix, Arizona, for Christmas. To add to the disappointment, I was not able to telephone to my family in Phoenix on Christmas Day, although I placed a telephone call at 9:30 a.m. and after sitting beside the telephone all day, waiting to get through, at 11:30 p.m. I was finally obliged to abandon the idea.

On December 29th I managed to get a flight to Phoenix out of Toronto, and out of Chicago. The plane was a few hours late in arriving at Phoenix, as we flew into and over a sandstorm in Texas. Despite flying several thousands of feet higher than the usual height for flying on this trip, we were told by the hostess that the haze which we saw through the windows of the plane was sand.

I hope that the sandstorm did no damage, for still fresh in my memory is the damage done by the floods, from which Texans have not yet recovered; and then I thought of all the grumbling we, in Canada, were doing because of the blizzard, which made travelling difficult, but in comparison, how small are our difficulties.

I ARRIVED in Phoenix in the rain, following this rainfall, the next day the rain came down heavily. They told me that the rain was a rarity, and apologized for it, although it was most welcome. However, as far as I was concerned, I said, "Let it rain," and on Monday, there was the sunshine, there were the palm trees, the date trees and other trees laden with citrus fruit.

There was the cheery greeting of "Hi-yi," the ten-gallon hats, the Levi's (Blue Jeans) the cowboy boots worn by men and women, the Western shirts. There was that relaxed, leisurely stance, which implied by its position more forcefully than in words, "What's the hurry?"

You might be interested to know that if you wish to pick oranges, or grape-fruit for your own table, you are invited to go ahead and pick, what you pick is yours for the picking. You can buy oranges at three pounds for 25 cents, and grape-fruit about 25 cents a dozen, and it is well known that Arizona's citrus-fruits are particularly luscious.

THE Chamber of Commerce does not know that I am writing about the citrus fruit, it is not a plug or a commercial; and no doubt visitors would be equally impressed in seeing our trees in Canada laden with apples, plums, peaches and cherries, but to me, a Canadian, the sight of oranges and grape-fruit, hanging so abundantly on trees, or lying under the trees waiting to be picked up, is a wondrous sight, which compels me to lift mine eyes unto the mountains in search of The Creator of all this handiwork.

Among my Christmas gifts was *Show Biz*, *Variety From Vaude to Video*, written by Abel Green and Joe Laurie, Jr. Published by Henry Holt and Company. On the inside flap of the cover-jacket we read, "*Show Biz* is a gigantic panorama — gay, informal, brash — crammed with information on the entertainment world never before available in any book.

"It is not only a book for show people, but for every one who has seen a stage show or movie, listened to a radio program, or watched a television screen. It is for grandparents and bobbysoxers.

"FILLED WITH nostalgic highlights, *Show Biz* is also jam-packed with facts, figures, names, and anecdotes — on vaudeville (Eva Tanguay to Smith & Dale) songs (Alexander's Ragtime Band to the latest Rodgers & Hammerstein hit) movies (the Gish Sisters to Ava Gardner) radio (The Happiest Boys to Arthur Godfrey) television (from its beginning in the twenties to Milton Berle and Faye Emerson) legit (Ten Nights in a Bar Room to Guys & Dolls) opera (Enrico Caruso to Rudolph Bing) and burlesque (Leon Errol to Gypsy Rose Lee).

"*Show Biz* is the result of more than seven years' labor by co-authors Abel Green and Joe Laurie, Jr."

Abel Green is the well-known editor of *Variety* and Joe Laurie, Jr. the well-known vaudeville veteran.

I have not had an opportunity to read *Show Biz* as yet, but in glancing through several pages of this remarkable book I noted a caption, *Theatrical Royalty*, "Lily Langtry (*The Jersey Lily*) started a tradition in 1907 when she asked the manager of her theatre to lay a carpet from her dressing-room to the stage, to keep the hems of her dresses clean. The carpet happened to be red." The authors advise that Anna Held made the same demand, and this started the tradition of "roll out the carpet."

WHAT'S in a name, or in names, we ask ourselves? Here are a few which I find in *Show Biz* attached to dates which sound so very long ago. Eddie Leonard, 1909; Texas Quinan, 1908, and weighing 204 pounds; Marie Dressler, W. C. Fields, 1909; Eddie Cantor, 1910; Eva Tanguay; Fanny Brice, Edna Wallace Hopper, Jerome D. Kern; Bill (Bojangles) Robinson, 1905; Willie and Eugene Howard; Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin, Tony Pastor, Willie Hammerstein, Oscar Hammerstein the 2nd, E. F. Albee, Vesta Victoria, Alice Lloyd, 1907; Sophie Tucker, 1908; and into the movies, in 1908, we find, in this *Show Biz* book, such names as Trixie Friganza and Blanche Ring.

There is a most interesting report that in 1907, *Variety* stated there were between 4,000 to 5,000 ten-cent movie theatres operating in the United States, and that the number was rapidly increasing. In 1909, *Variety* reports that vaudeville theatre operators became aware of the Movie as powerful competition, for the Movie became known as "the poor man's amusement." Church and the Society for the Prevention of Crime were openly in opposition to Movies, and *Show Biz* reports that in 1908, Dec. 24th, New York's Mayor George B. McClellan revoked the licenses of 550 nickelodeons who, in order to regain their licenses, were obliged to sign written pledges not to give shows on Sundays, and to bar films "tending to degrade the morals of the community."

SHOW BIZ is an astonishing book, brimful of important information, references, facts and glamour. For those in show biz it will provide a genuine treat, and will act as an encyclopedia of knowledge. I believe the book sells at \$5.00 and at that price it is really a "give-away."

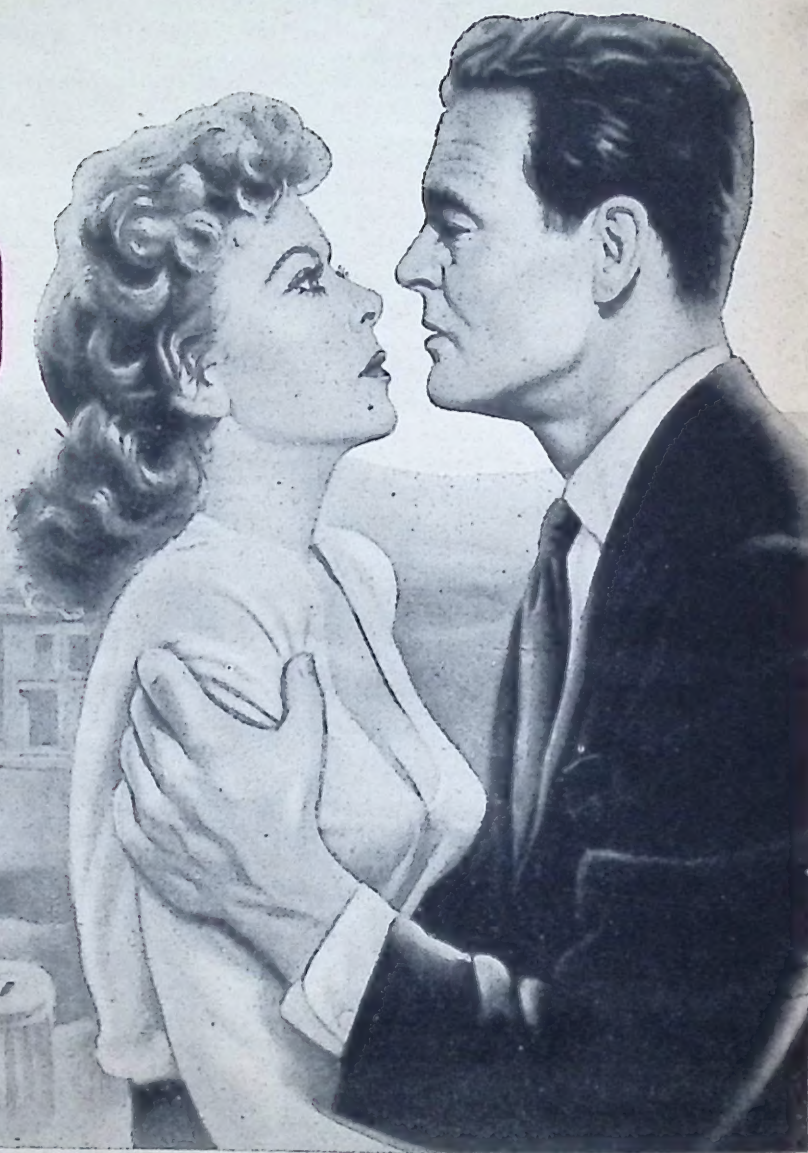
Boys and girls, in case you have overlooked the fact, 1952 is Leap Year, in the *Phoenix Gazette*, of Jan. 1, there is a story by Bob Lord which starts off with, "Get out your track shoes, you happy bachelors, and start running. If you run fast enough, you may live to wake up single, Jan. 1, 1953."

To the bachelors who believe that they are happy being unmarried, I cannot state that two can live as cheaply as one, but I can state that being married is twice as much fun.

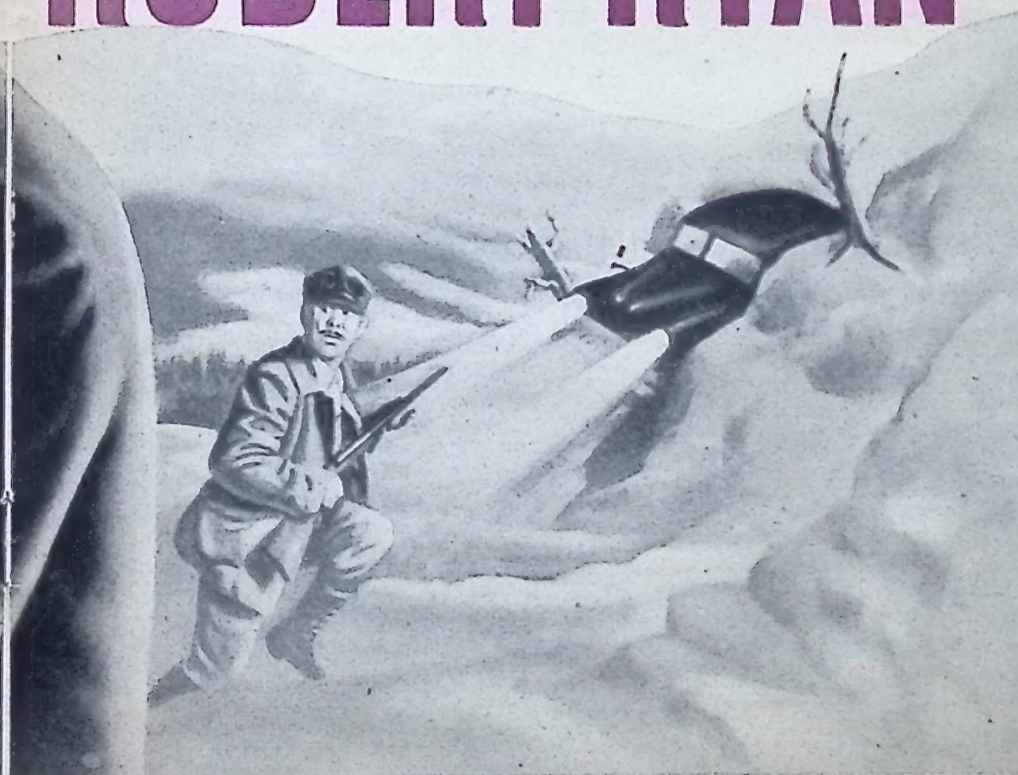
(Continued on Page 7)

IN ONE STRANGE NIGHT...

IDA LUPINO



ROBERT RYAN



**she met
both love
...and
murder!**

**In a dark
house on a
lonely hill...
happens one
of the most
terrifying
love stories
ever filmed!**

ON DANGEROUS GROUND

with **WARD BOND** · CHARLES KEMPER · Produced by JOHN HOUSEMAN ·

Directed by NICHOLAS RAY · Screenplay by A. I. BEZZERIDES



CENTRE PAGES

Toronto and District

BILL PRESS

R. W. Bolstad, chief barker, has announced that Toronto Tent No. 28 is sponsoring the 17-city Canadian tour of a British variety show with proceeds for Variety Village, the headliners including Comedian Tommy Trinder and the Canadian dance team, Alan and Blanche Lund.

The tour, which opens at the Royal Alexandra Feb. 11, will cover St. Catharines, Hamilton, Kitchener, London, Brantford, Kingston and Ottawa in Ontario, and Montreal in the East.

Western Canadian bookings include Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria.

The New Year message from Kenneth S. Gillies, Toronto building commissioner, was that the overhanging signs on Yonge Street would have to be removed, the deadline under a special bylaw having been reached at the end of the year.

Gillies promised prosecutions for violation of the bylaw, although a period of grace would be granted on account of weather conditions.



Wannie Tyers, manager of the Odeon-Toronto Theatre, presented the first fashion show of 1952. This presentation was in conjunction with the release of "The Model and The Marriage Broker" (20th-Fox) in the Odeon-Toronto Theatre, January 11th.

Wannie has done a grand job in promoting this fashion promenade. Firms participating are well known and leaders in their particular fields.

Posluns Coats and Suits
Posluns Furs
Elizabeth Anne Gowns
Camille Millinery
Richard Hudnut Cosmetics
Walter Thornton Models

\$10,000 in furs, garments and millinery are being modelled each evening from 8:00 P.M. to 8:45 P.M. in the lobby, foyer and the theatre restaurant during the entire engagement of "The Model and The Marriage Broker."

This timely fashion revue featuring spring styles for milady is certain to attract a tremendous amount of attention. Theatre patrons and transients alike will have an opportunity to witness this nightly display in the theatre lobby as will also patrons of the theatre restaurant.

The Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario has continued its fight against the zoning by-law of the City of Toronto which would have the effect of complicating the erection of new theatres through parking-lot and other requirements. A brief, drawn up by Joseph Singer, has been submitted to city hall authorities and council members.

The Kent Theatre has joined the six other Famous Players' theatres in Windsor, Ont., through acquisition of the lease formerly held by Odeon Theatres (Canada) Limited.

Eugene Fitzgibbons, district manager at Windsor, announced at the end of the year that arrangements have been made for the renovation of the Kent where top International pictures will be presented under the new policy.

Maritime News

BY ALICE L. FAIRWEATHER

A premiere of the Royal Tour was staged at Fredericton with all the deserved pomp. The Gaiety theatre was donated through the courtesy of W.W.O. Fenety, owner, and the showing was under the patronage of the Lieutenant Governor, D. L. MacLaren and Mrs. MacLaren. Many prominent persons who are to be seen in the film were special guests including Premier J. B. McNair and his daughter Miss Margaret McNair, Dr. A. W. Trueman, principal of the University of New Brunswick and a member of the National Film Board, Mayor and Mrs. Wright of Fredericton, the Army, Navy, Mounted Police officials, L.O.D.E. President, Mrs. E. A. Skene and the president of the Home and School N.B. Association.

The Kent Theatre at Bathurst, N.B., will open about the middle of January and is affiliated with Famous Players. It will be operated by W. J. Kent. Assistant manager will be J. J. Fellows who was formerly assistant manager at the Capitol Theatre, Halifax, N.S.

J. G. Clowes, manager of the Odeon Strand Theatre, Saint John, invited veterans from the Lancaster Military Hospital to be guests of the Strand Odeon at a presentation of Starlift for a matinee showing. The City Transit Company co-operated generously with Mr. Clowes in providing busses to convey men from the Military Hospital and Ridgewood Occupational Centre to the theatre. This film is of special interest to military men in that it deals with entertainment for the troops.

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VANCOUVER NEWS

JACK DROY

Frank Gow, Famous Players District Manager, who was hospitalized, is fully recovered and back at his desk. Ted Ross, JARO booker, is laid up with a leg injury. Columbia's New Westminster manager Eddie Zetterman, is in hospital suffering from high blood pressure. Ernest Sauer, manager of the Odeon Theatre, West Vancouver, is the father of a son, Dennis George, born in Vancouver General Hospital. Irene Falvey, Dominion Theatre cashier, was married to Gordon Schnepf of Port Alice, B.C. Mickey Goldin of the Studio, held a party for his staff and their friends over the holidays which was rated tops by all. Shirl Wilson, manager of Perkins Electric Company, also held open house at his new quarters, near film row, which was well attended by show biz. Christmas gift ticket sales at theatres was on a par with last year for yuletide gifts, and many theatre employees did well, cashing in on commissions paid them.

Local suburban houses have upped their admissions by 5c, which makes it 50c, to date the downtown houses have not put the increase into effect.

Thanks to a group of community minded citizens, Parksville, a Vancouver Island town will have a modern theatre in 1952. Plans have been made for a 350-seat theatre of the latest construction to cost \$60,000. W. W. Shelly is in charge of the committee and construction will start this month. The town is 22 miles from Nanaimo and was formerly serviced by a 16 mm circuit. The new theatre will play 35 mm, 6 days a week.

Film Exchange front office union F-71 elected the new slate of officers for 1952. President Theo Ross, JARO; vice-president, Bill Grant, RKO; Sec.-Treas. Alice Gladding, Empire-Universal; Business Agent, Vi Yates, Universal; Recording Sec., Jackie McDermott of MGM.

RAY PRESENTS

(Continued from Page 3)

Bob Lord tells his readers that the last Leap Year was in 1948, and that 1,811,155 men "were hoodwinked into saying, yes. In 1949, custom came to their rescue, and only 1,585,440 boys yielded."

It is further stated in the Lord story that Queen Margaret of Scotland, in 1288, being a spinster, endeavored to help out the maidens who were unwed and taxed the bachelors, save those who could prove that they were betrothed. Not only did Queen Margaret tax the bachelors who refused to accept an offer of marriage from a spinster, but the Statute, which she had enacted and ordained, was followed by other countries which enacted similar laws, as an example France, Genoa, Florence.

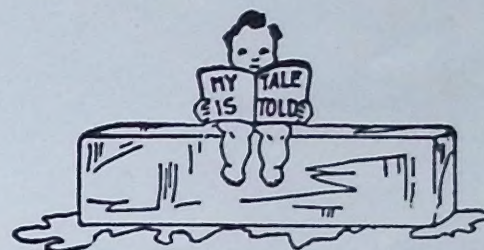
HOWEVER, may I remind our reluctant bachelors to have no fear, for it has never been said, Woman proposes and God disposes; the quotation is, Man proposes. 1952 has numbers which add up to 17, and one goes into seven, seven times, of course you know that seven is a very lucky number in the Book of Numbers, therefore, 1952 will be a lucky year for all of us.

It is good news to read that William P. Rodgers, formerly vice-president in charge of distribution for MGM, will remain active with this company in the office of advisory consultant.

It is, also, good to know that after being actively engaged in Motion Pictures for a period of forty-two

years, many of which years were directed in selling to exhibitors, that William F. Rodgers has received warm tributes from exhibitors, who were his customers, tributes which emphasize his sense of justice, his sense of fair trading, and integrity. Bill Rodgers always knew that friendly relations between exhibition and distribution was the only permanent platform or foundation upon which the Motion Picture Industry could build a permanent enterprise.

We are, as usual, at this period of time, going to have a deluge of The Year's Ten Best. The first which has come to my attention direct from Hollywood is from Bob Thomas of Hollywood, who names, *A Place In The Sun*, Paramount, *The African Queen*, U-A. *Death Of A Salesman*, Columbia, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Warner Brothers, *Detective Story*, Paramount, *An American in Paris*, MGM, *Decision Before Dawn*, 20th-Fox, *Red Badge of Courage*, MGM, *The Frogmen* 20th-Fox, *Quo Vadis*, MGM, and *David and Bathsheba*, 20th-Fox. When I say the first list of The Ten Best, I am not including the Whittaker List published around Christmas in the *Globe and Mail*.



Cardinal Films to Distribute New Hollywood Production Company's Product

Mutual Productions Corp., a new Hollywood production and distributing company, headed by Hal E. Chester, Moe Kerman and Jack Dietz recently formed, has lined up 28 exchange areas in the United States as well as making a distribution deal with Cardinal Films in Canada and David Coplan in England for the release of its initial 24 pictures, soon to go into production.

The aim of this new group, which has developed keen interest on the part of many freelance producers, directors and actors, is to make action-drama product at medium cost but pictures that will at the same time avoid the familiar "B" films.

The first two films to be produced will be *Models, Inc.* already in production, to be followed by *Virgin Island Mutiny* in Technicolor. Other titles already set and in preparation for shooting are *Monster From Beneath The Sea*, *High Bridge*, *The Ebb Tide*, *Ceiling 60,000*, *Captain Hurricane*, *The Prison Story*, *Expedition Space*, *Sin School*, *The Man From Nowhere*, *Submarine X100*, *Rimrock*, *Crime Unlimited*, *Voodoo Queen*, *Mad Dog*, *Wild Girls Of The Road*, *The Oldest Profession*, *Time Trap* and *Haunted*. Four color specials will also be produced, *War Dance*, *Robinson Crusoe*, *The Warriors* and *The Masked Cavalier*.

Cardinal Films, headed by Harry Allen who has undertaken the distribution of this new line-up of product by Mutual Productions also distributes for Lippert Pictures in Canada. Lippert Pictures, at its first national sales convention in Chicago last week, announced for immediate release the following new product: *Navajo*, *For Men Only*, *Man Bait* and *Stronghold*, five of the 22 "A" films scheduled for release this season.

Streetcar Named Desire Voted Best Film in '51

A *Streetcar Named Desire*, Elia Kazan's film about the descent into madness of a fading Southern woman, was voted the best movie of 1951 by the New York Film Critics at a recent meeting. Besides being named best film of the year, *A Streetcar Named Desire* won glory on two other counts. The critics named Miss Leigh the best actress of the year for her powerful, sensitive portrayal in it, and chose Kazan the year's outstanding director.

In the competition for best actor of 1951, Arthur Kennedy captured the award for his work as the blind soldier in Universal's *Bright Victory*.

Vittorio De Sica's Italian film fantasy, *Miracle In Milan* was honored by the film critics as the top foreign-language movie of 1951. This is the second time a De Sica movie has been given the accolade; his *Bicycle Thief* was also named best foreign-language movie of the year two years ago. De Sica has not only won fame for himself through the films he has produced but as well

through his acting achievements in top Italian films. Of special interest is his portrayal of a blind fiddler in *Lost In The Darkness*, soon to be released in Canada because of Arthur Kennedy's choice as best actor of the year in *Blind Victory*.

Variety Picks David and Bathsheba as Tops for '51

The annual roundup of the year's top grossing films by Variety for the USA and Canada discloses that 20th-Fox's *David and Bathsheba* led the boxoffice parade in 1951.

A trio of Metro entries, *Showboat*, *An American In Paris* and *The Great Caruso* were the runners-up for the boxoffice sweepstakes award.

Variety lists Gregory Peck as the top money star of the year, with Susan Hayward heading the female list.

Top money producer of 1951 was Metro's Arthur Freed through *Showboat*, *An American In Paris* and *Royal Wedding*. Universal's Leonard Goldstein was the runner-up and Darryl F. Zanuck was in third position.

Henry King, who directed *David and Bathsheba* headed the list in the director category with Metro's Vincent Minelli in second place and Henry Koster in third.

An announcement has been made that 45 theatres in Ontario have been lined up for the "Curtain at 8:30" policy for special Thursday evening showings of unusual features under the booking auspices of International Cinema Guild of Canada. The policy was scheduled to start January 10th.

CAPITAL STORY

By BILL McLAUGHLIN

Canadian Repertory Theatre group is presently presenting the North American premiere of the London stage hit, *The Happy Family*. The company now carries its own theatre name on the canopy of the La Salle Academy on Sussex Street at Guigues in Lower Town.

A current holdover is *Across the Wide Missouri* at the Regent Theatre, with the perennial favorite, Clark Gable, in the lead. Manager Henry Marshall also had a New Year's Eve midnight show, with a preview of *Callaway Went Thataway* as the feature attraction.



Use This Information As Your Guide on Release Dates

TORONTO

IMPERIAL
My Favorite Spy (Para.) with Bob Hope and Hedy Lamarr.

LOEW'S
Second week. *Across the Wide Missouri* (MGM) Technicolor with Clark Gable.

SHEA'S
Golden Girl (20th-Fox) Technicolor with Miltzi Gaynor and Dale Robertson.

UNIVERSITY & NORTOWN
Elopement (20th-Fox) with Clifton Webb and Anne Francis.

ODEON-CARLTON
Second week. *Ivory Hunter* (JARO) Technicolor with Anthony Steel.

HYLAND
Tenth week. *Lavender Hill Mob* (JARO) with Alec Guinness.

VICTORIA & EGLINTON
The Wooden Horse (IFD) and The Royal Journey (NFB).

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA
Fourteenth week. *Laughter in Paradise* (IFD) with Alastair Sim.

TOWNE CINEMA
Second week. *The River* (UA) Technicolor.

UPTOWN
Second Week. *Flame of Araby* (E-U) Technicolor with Maureen O'Hara and Jeff Chandler.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
Anne of the Indies (20th-Fox) Technicolor with Jean Peters and Louis Jourdan.

LOEW'S
Third week. *An American in Paris* (MGM) Technicolor with Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron.

SNOWDEN-OUTREMONT
The Raging Tide (E-U) with Shelley Winters and Richard Conte.

PRINCESS
The Racket (RKO) with Robert Mitchum and Elizabeth Scott.

ORPHEUM
The Man With My Face (UA) and Three Steps North (UA).

IMPERIAL
Second week. *Flame of Araby* (E-U) Technicolor with Maureen O'Hara and Jeff Chandler.

AVENUE
Second week. *The Lavender Hill Mob* (JARO) with Alec Guinness.

KENT
Mister Drake's Duck (UA) with Douglas Fairbanks Jr. and Yolande Donlan.

PALACE
Second week. *My Favorite Spy* (Para) with Bob Hope and Hedy Lamarr.

AVON & STRAND
The Sea Hornet (Republic) and Havana Rose (Republic).

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
My Favorite Spy (Para.) with Bob Hope and Hedy Lamarr.

ODEON
Second week. *The Lavender Hill Mob* (JARO) with Alec Guinness.

GAIETY
Seven Days To Noon (IFD) and The Royal Journey (NFB).

VALOUR
Cyrano de Bergerac (UA) with Jose Ferrer and Mala Pawers.

LYCEUM
Second week. *His Kind of Woman* (RKO) with Jane Russell and Robert Mitchum.

GRAND
Tarzan's Peril (RKO) and Jungle of Chang (RKO).

MET
An American in Paris (MGM) Technicolor with Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron.

GARRICK
Second week. *Flame of Araby* (E-U) Technicolor with Maureen O'Hara and Jeff Chandler.

VANCOUVER

VOGUE
Week End With Father (E-U) with Van Heflin and Patricia Neal.

CAPITOL
Second week. *My Favorite Spy* (Para.) with Bob Hope and Hedy Lamarr.

STRAND
Second week. *Elopement* (20th-Fox) with Clifton Webb.

ORPHEUM
Starlift (WB) Technicolor with Doris Day and Gordon MacRae.

CINEMA
The Tanks Are Coming (WB) with Steve Cochran.

STUDIO
Second week. *No Highway in the Sky* (20th-Fox) with James Stewart and Marlene Dietrich.

PLAZA
Second week. *Anne of the Indies* (20th-Fox) Technicolor with Jean Peters and Louis Jourdan.

ST. JOHN

CAPITOL
Double Dynamite (RKO) with Jane Russell and Frank Sinatra.

PARAMOUNT
Two Tickets To Broadway (RKO) Technicolor with Tony Martin and Janet Leigh.

STRAND
Sunset In The West (Republic).

CALGARY

CAPITOL
An American in Paris (MGM) Technicolor with Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron.

PALACE
Mr. Imperium (MGM) and Tokyo File 212 (RKO).

GRAND
Thunder On The Hill (E-U) with Claudette Colbert and Ann Blyth.

UPTOWN
Model and the Marriage Broker (20th-Fox) with Jeane Crain.

STRAND
Captain Fabian (Republic).

Ottawa is the hotbed of monster bingos in Canada, as any local movie theatre manager will tell you. It is also a city of owl show addicts and no other city in the whole of Canada can approach it in the number of people who attend midnight shows preceding a holiday. Main reason for this is the large number of civil servants whose homes are far from the city they work in and who attend late night performances rather than remain in rooms and apartments with thoughts of the long holiday before them. New Year's Eve shows after 12 o'clock this year was no exception and every movie theatre in town appeared to be staging special inducements to get the crowd a spot of fun before settling down for 1952. Attendances were big at all spots, both Uptown and at the neighborhoods. Early closing of all cabarets and dance halls, hotels and beverage rooms in Hull and other points across the river in Quebec helped to swell midnight theatre-going in the capital.

Alastair Sim in *Laughter of Paradise* is doing mighty well at the Little Elgin and is currently into its third week. Behave Yourself got off to a big start in the main auditorium and manager Ernie Warren says that the new comedy team of Shelley Winters and Farley Granger is a big hit with his regular customers.

Gord, Bravis, manager of the ace Odeon Theatre, had a stage show set-up for his gala midnight celebration, with five acts coming up from a tightly shuttered Montreal to do their usual floor show stuff.

Casey Swedlove was another who presented a stage show as an added attraction to his regular screen bill. Bob Maynard, of the Francais Theatre, gave his midnight patrons a musical show called *The Gay Nineties* and garnered a capacity crowd at 80 cents per ducat.

Prairie News

By BRUCE PEACOCK

A drummer in the orchestra pit of the old Empire Theatre, Saskatoon, several years ago, Frank Wakelam, 60, died in Saskatoon Dec. 19. He was a life member of the American Federation of Musicians and had been president of Local 553 A.F.M. several years ago. He is survived by three sisters and two brothers. Burial was in Saskatoon.

Strand Theatre, Calgary, was robbed of \$1,500 and a revolver when the safe in manager Leroy Chown's office was cracked in the early hours of Dec. 24. The money was the theatre's weekend receipts. Entry was gained through a roof door that led to the manager's office.